

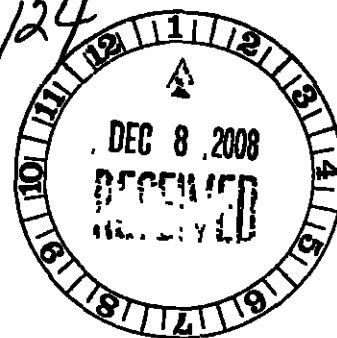
**FILED**

DEC - 8 2008

**SURFACE  
TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

224/24  
Friends of Fred Meijer Heartland Trail  
P.O. Box 805  
Stanton, MI 48888  
(989) 831-5261

December 4, 2008



Honorable Anne K. Quinlan  
Acting Secretary  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, S W  
Washington, D. C 20423

RE Docket No AB-364 (Sub-No. 14X), *Mid-Michigan Railroad, Inc -  
Abandonment Exemption-in Kent, Ionia, and Montcalm Counties, MI*

Dear Acting Secretary Quinlan:

On March 6, 2008, the West Michigan Trails and Greenways Coalition ("WMTGC") requested a notice of interim trail use/rail banking for approximately a 21 88-mile rail line between Lowell, milepost 103.20, and near Greenville, milepost 81.32, at the end of the line in Kent, Ionia, and Montcalm Counties, MI (the "Line"), in the above-entitled proceeding. By decision served June 9, 2008, the Surface Transportation Board granted the request.

The current negotiating period expires on December 8, 2008. WMTGC has been unable to finalize negotiations with the Mid-Michigan Railroad, Inc. ("MMRR"). The Friends of the Fred Meijer Heartland Trail ("FFMHT") desires to continue to negotiate for interim trail use/rail banking with MMRR for the Line in place of WMTGC. Attached is a Statement of Willingness to Assume Financial Responsibility from FFMHT. MMRR has not consummated the abandonment. Therefore, FFMHT respectfully requests the Board to grant a 180-day extension of time to June 6, 2009 to negotiate trail use with MMRR. Additionally, FFMHT respectfully requests an extension of the date for MMRR to consummate the abandonment to August 5, 2009. Enclosed is a check for the filing fee of \$450.

An original and 10 copies of this letter are being filed. Please time and date stamp the additional copy of this letter and return it in the enclosed stamped envelope. Thank you for your assistance.

If you have any questions please call or email me.

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Office of Proceedings

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Public Record

Sincerely yours,

*Franz J Mogdis*

Franz J Mogdis, Chairman  
Friends of Fred Meijer Heartland Trail  
fmogdis@maisd.com

**FEE RECEIVED**

DEC - 8 2008

**SURFACE  
TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

Cc Mid-Michigan Railroad, Inc

BEFORE THE  
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

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Docket No AB-364 (Sub-No 14X)

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MID-MICHIGAN RAILROAD, INC --ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION--  
IN KENT, IONIA, AND MONTCALM COUNTIES, MI

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STATEMENT OF WILLINGNESS TO ASSUME FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

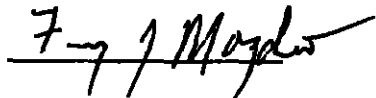
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In order to establish interim trail use and rail banking under 16 U S C §1247(d) and 49 CFR §1152.29, Friends of Fred Meijer Heartland Trail ("FFMHT") is willing to assume full responsibility for management of, for any legal liability arising out of the transfer or use of, and for the payment of any and all taxes that may be levied or assessed against the right-of-way owned and operated by Mid-Michigan Railroad, Inc ("MMRR"). The property, known as Lowell to Greenville Line, extends from railroad milepost 103.20 near Lowell, to railroad milepost 81.32, near Greenville, a distance of 21.88 miles in Kent, Ionia, and Montcalm Counties, MI. The right-of-way is part of a line of railroad exempted for abandonment in Docket No STB AB-364 (Sub-No 14X).

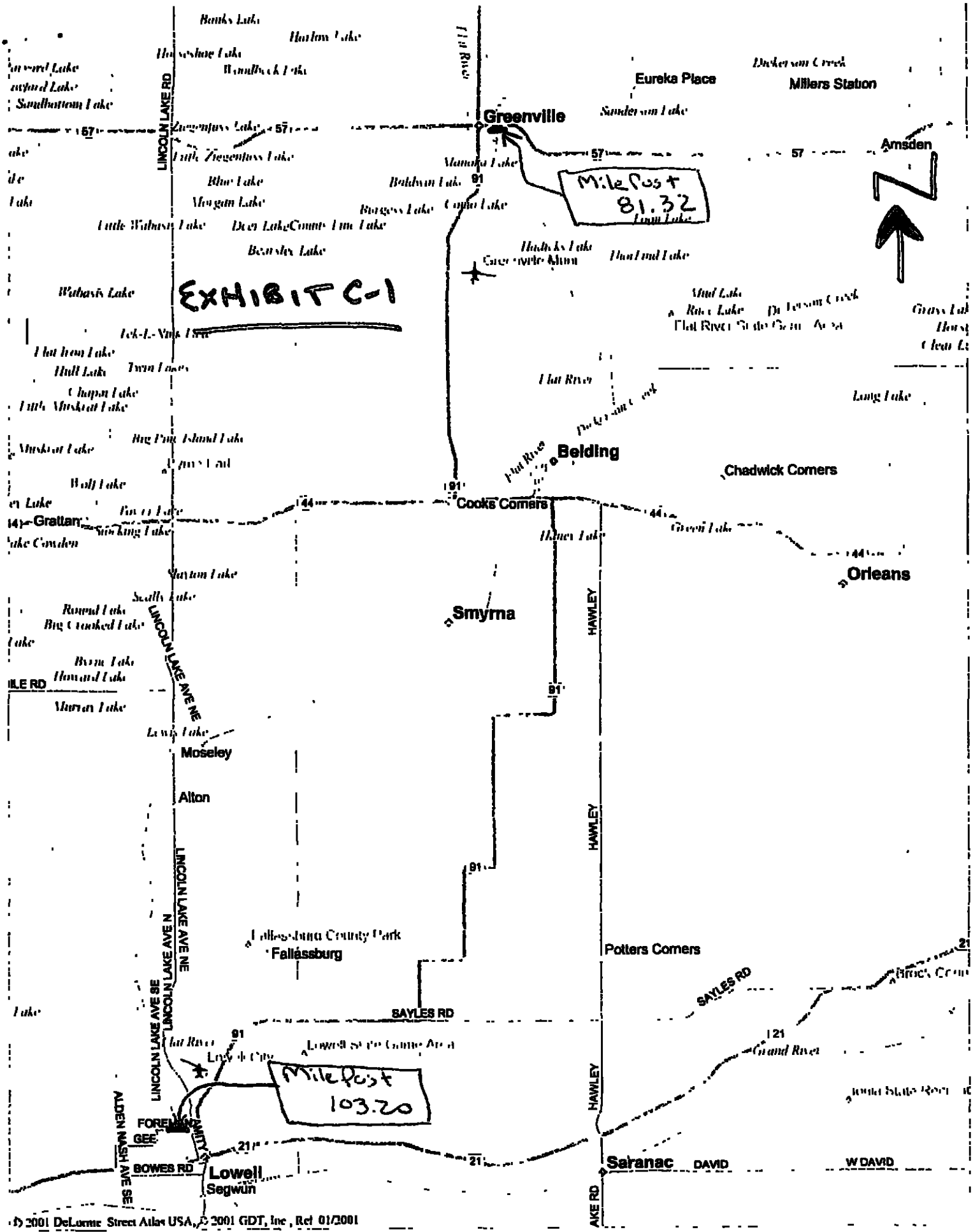
A map of the property depicting the right-of-way is attached

FFMHT acknowledges that use of the right-of-way is subject to the user's continuing to meet its responsibilities described above and subject to possible future reconstruction and reactivation of the right-of-way for rail service. A copy of this statement is being served on the MMRR on the same date it is being served on the Board.

Respectfully submitted,



Franz J. Mogdis, Chairman  
Friends of Fred Meijer Heartland Trail



+++++ PROPOSED SALE (Lowell/MP 103.20 to GREENVILLE MP 81.32)